

## Message Text

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12

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04

NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 L-02 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 INT-05 /067 W

----- 065274

R 070728Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY MASERU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4717

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

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CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, SF, LT

SUBJECT: VIOLENCE AT TWO NATAL COAL MINES

REF: DURBAN 84 (NOTAL)

1. AS RESULT OF COAL MINE DISTURBANCES REPORTED REFTTEL, ABOUT 650 MINERS HAVE RETURNED HOME TO LESOTHO, APPROXIMATELY 300 FROM HLOBANE.

2. SOUTH AFRICAN PRESS AND RADIO REPORTS RECEIVED HERE STATE ALL LESOTHO MINERS RETURNED HOME AT THEIR OWN REQUEST. LESOTHO RADIO REPORTS STATE MINERS WERE ORDERED HOME. LOCAL OFFICE OF SOUTH AFRICAN ORGANIZATION THAT RECRUITS FOR AFFECTED MINES CONCEDES THAT SOME RETURNED MINERS ARE SAYING THEY DID NOT WISH TO LEAVE MINES BUT GENERALLY SUPPORTS HEAD OFFICE POSITION THAT LESOTHO MINERS ASKED TO BE SENT HOME.

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3. LESOTHO'S LABOR COMMISSIONER REPORTS THAT LESOTHO MINERS AT NORTHFIELD MINE WERE SENT HOME AGAINST THEIR WILL, WHEREAS THOSE FROM HLOBANE ASKED TO COME HOME.

4. WITH RESPECT TO IMMEDIATE CAUSES OF FACTION FIGHTING, IT UNDERSTOOD HERE THAT XHOSAS ATTACKED FIRST AT NORTHFIELD. LABOR COMMISSIONER SAYS THIS CONFIRMED BY MINE MANAGEMENT. COMMISSIONER SAYS IMMEDIATE CAUSES AT HLOBANE CONSIDERED "MYSTERIOUS". LESOTHO HAS REPRESENTATIVE ON SCENE FROM ITS JOHANNESBURG LABOR OFFICE.

5. OF 31 DEAD IN FACTION FIGHTS, COMMISSIONER REPORTS 11 FROM LESOTHO, ZULU, AND REMAINDER PRESUMED TO BE XHOSA.

6. COMMENT: CONSIDER IT LIKELY THAT SOME MINERS FROM LESOTHO REPATRIATED AGAINST THEIR WILL. THIS FITS IN WITH ANNOUNCED PLANS BY SOME GOLD MINE OWNERS TO REPATRIATE ESTABLISHED OR POTENTIAL TROUBLEMAKERS.  
HAUGHT

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MINING, LABOR DISORDERS, DEATHS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 07 MAR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** KelleyW0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975MASERU00246  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750080-0341  
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**Office:** ACTION AF  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 DURBAN 84  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** KelleyW0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 20 AUG 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <20 AUG 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <08 DEC 2003 by KelleyW0>  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** VIOLENCE AT TWO NATAL COAL MINES  
**TAGS:** ELAB, SF, LT  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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